

cases Grasshopper Sparrow were reportedly very early in May but could not be found thru the month thereafter.

The spring rarities list has a very strong flavor of southern "over-shoots", this despite the poor showing of southerly winds thru most of the season; similarly upstate had a fine array of "coast - to - inland" birds which may have been stopped by the innumerable rainstorms rather than passing over in the usual non-stop northbound migration. The Adirondack sector had a good collection of northern rarities (q.v.) and a "state lister" would do well to read that report in toto. The many rare birds included - Great Cormorant (5), Glossy Ibis (3,5,6,9), Surf Scoter (4), Swainson's Hawk (5), Sandhill Crane (2), Whimbrel (3), Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits (2), Ruff (3), Avocet (3), Black-necked Stilt (10), Lesser Black-backed Gull (5), Little Gull (3), Black-billed Magpie (3), Common Raven (7), White eyed Vireo (2,4), Swainson's Warbler (10), Yellow-throated Warbler (2,10), Kentucky Warbler (4,5,10), Summer Tanager (2,10), and Blue Grosbeak (10).

And for the closing, admonitions - keep counts carefully; report not just species, but numbers of each; document your rarities; and get your reports to your regional editors on time.

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REGION 2 — GENESEE

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Rochester experienced what statisticians would call an average Spring. April temperatures and rainfall were slightly above average, 48 degrees and 3.21 inches, respectively; while May was average with 55 degrees and 2.66 inches. Early April was rather cold and wet with some snowfall on the 10th. The balance of April was very pleasant with above average temperatures. The first Broad-winged Hawks and an Osprey appeared on the 15th with other notable flights occurring on the 21st and 22nd. May was very pleasant both weather and birding wise. With the exception of the 28th and 29th when we experienced spectacular flights, no large flights occurred. Small flights were noted on the following days: 2, 12, 19, 22, 26 and 30th. Foliage was advanced enough throughout May to make birding a constant challenge.

RARITIES INCLUDE: Snowy Egret, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Sandhill Crane, Willet, Marbled Godwit, Hudsonian Godwit, Wilson's Phalarope, Boreal Chickadee, White-eyed Vireo, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Summer Tanager, House Finch.

ABBREVIATIONS: BB - Braddock Bay; DEP - Durand Eastman Park; WEB - Webster; WP - Webster Park; WLS - west Lakeshore.

OBSERVERS: MC — Michael Carlson; JCL — Julie Claffey; J&JC — Jack & Joyce Connor; JC — Jerry Czech; PD — Patty Dutcher; ME — Mike Ehlers; WCL — Walter Listman; WL — Warren Lloyd; J&TM — Joe & Thelma McNett; GM — Gordon Meade; LM — Laura Moon; NM — Neil Moon; ROH — Richard O'Hara; MAS — Mary Ann Sunderlin; JT — Joe Taylor; MT — Mike Tetlow; TT — Tom Tetlow; DT — Dave Themmel; GOS — Genesee Ornithological Society; MOB — many observers.

LOONS — DUCKS: Common Loon: reached their peak the last week of April — several reports of 12-14 birds from various points along the lakeshore. Red-throated Loon and Red-necked Grebe were unreported, while Horned Grebe appeared in good numbers. Double-crested Cormorant: 1 April 19 BB (WCL) only report for period. A new Great Blue Heron rookery with approximately 8 nests was found south of Avon, N.Y. Cattle Egret: 7-10 arr April 22 present throughout rest of period BB (MOB) new high for area. Great Egret: max 1 April 21-May 13 & 23 — all reports from WLS (GOS-MC). SNOWY EGRET: 1-3 May 13-16 BB (J&JC et al) this is our first report since May 1966 and a new high for the area. All other herons seem to be in good numbers with Least Bitterns more conspicuous than usual, probably due to the high water level. Apparently the early thaw kept most of the migrant ducks moving through our area without any large concentrations forming. A single Brant was observed May 11 WP (WL). Local puddle ducks, namely Mallard, Black and Blue-winged Teal appear in good numbers and seem to be having good nesting success, Mallards especially seem to be doing very well — almost every puddle has its brood. White-winged Scoter: 650 May 13 BB (WCL).

HAWKS — OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 153 April 16 BB (LM et al); 82 April 21 BB (GOS) were both new highs for the area. Goshawk: 1-4 migrants were reported almost daily throughout April WEB-BB (JC et al). Sharp-shinned Hawk: high count for each month was 150 April 22 BB (GOS); 330 May 2 BB (MC). Coopers Hawk: 15 April 21 WEB (JC). Red-tailed Hawk: local birds present in good numbers — max migrants 80 April 15 BB (GOS). Red-shouldered Hawk: 10 April 6 WEB (JC). Broad-winged Hawk: counts of 1000 or more — 1000 April 22 BB (GOS); 5000 May 2 BB (MOB); 2486 May 3 BB (MOB); 1000 May 9 WEB (MOB); 2500 May 10 WEB (JC); 4950 May 29 WEB (JC); it is interesting to note that the May 29 flight passed in less than two hours. Rough-legged Hawk: 9 April 21 BB (GOS). GOLDEN EAGLE: 1 adult April 21 BB (GOS); 1 imm April 21 BB (GOS). BALD EAGLE: our local nest at Hemlock Lake has been destroyed — mother nature being the cause. and the birds have not been reported from that area; migrants include 1 imm April 22 BB (WL&MAS); 1 imm May 3 WEB (WL); 1 imm May 29 WEB (WL). Marsh Hawk: 21 April 21 BB (GOS); there is at least one pair attempting to nest on BB. Osprey: 11 April 21 BB (GOS); 10 May 29 DEP (PD). PEREGRINE FALCON: 1 May 2 WEB (TT), this was our only report for the period and our 4th for the year. MERLIN: 1 April 16 DEP (ROH); 1 May 6 BB (NM, MT, TT); 1 May 13 WLS (MT, TT). American Kestrel: although numbers of migrants were low, local birds seem to be present in very good numbers. Ruffed Grouse: although this bird is fairly common in areas east and south of the city, it is noteworthy when it occurs in some of its old haunts, namely 1 May 9 Mendon Ponds Park (GOS); 1 May 20 Scottsville (JT et al). SANDHILL CRANE: 1 April 16 WEB (Jerry & Carol Czech & R. Cooper), this is the first report for Monroe County — the bird was seen flying in a west to east direction at approximately 3:30 p.m., the flight alternating between flying in circles and short glides. Shorebirds were present in good numbers from mid-April through the end of the period. Reports of Dunlin and Semipalmated Sandpiper were numerous with almost every puddle producing its share. Some of the more noteworthy records include — Black-bellied Plover: only two reports for area

-4 May 6 WLS (ROH); 6 May 27 BB (MOB). *WILLET*: 1 May 20 BB (JT et al). Greater Yellowlegs: 23 May 29 WLS (GOS). Dunlin: 1 April 17 WLS (K. Doris, M. Magee, D. Wilton) this is slightly early for our area. *MARBLED GODWIT*: 1 May 17-19 WLS (J&TM et al). *HUDSONIAN GODWIT*: 1 May 20 BB (JCL.TT). *WILSON'S PHALAROPE*: 1 May 6 WLS (MG); 2 May 20 Carlton (WCL et al). Glaucous Gull: 1 April 22 BB (GOS); 1 May 6 DEP (MT&TT); 1 May 15 DEP (PD). Iceland Gull: 1 May 13 DEP (PD). Common and Caspian Terns were in low numbers throughout the period, while Black Terns were present in very good numbers. The not too often found nest of a Long-eared Owl was discovered in Greece April 7 (NM, ME, DT) - by mid May it was deserted and presumably unsuccessful. Saw-whet Owl: 1 April 7 Greece (NM, ME, DT); 1 May 9 BB (MC, F. Berbig).

GOATSUCKERS - *STARLINGS*: Whip-poor-will was scarce as a migrant and Common Nighthawk still seems low in numbers - loss of habitat due to urban renewal could be the reason. All resident woodpeckers reported in good numbers. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 May 27 WLS (WL, MAS); 1 May 27 WEB (WL, MAS); 1 May 30 Pittsford (GM). *BOREAL CHICKADEE*: 2 April 21 BB (MT); 1 April 22 BB (GOS); 1 May 2 WP (MT.TT). Carolina Wren: the pair that spent the winter in Rochester were successful in their nesting attempt and were repored to have been feeding in mid May (F. Myers).

VIREOS - *WARBLERS*: *WHITE-EYED VIREO*: 1 April 26 BB (JCL, H. Steinhauser); 1 May 11-13 DEP (K. Doris, D. Wilton et al). *WORM-EATING WARBLER*: 1 May 12 Irondequoit (NM, ME, DT) this infrequent warbler was last reported from our area in Sept 1969. *YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER*: 1 May 2 BB (GM) last reported in April 1958. Pine Warbler: 1 May 22 Powder Mill Park (K. Doris, A. Stear) this is a very late report and apparently not a possible nesting bird as it has been unreported since. *PRAIRIE WARBLER*: 1 May 13 Greece (J&JC). *CONNECTICUT WARBLER*: 1 May 11 Fairport (F. Phelps).

BLACKBIRDS - *SPARROWS*: The Western Meadowlark present for several years has been unreported this season. *YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD*: 1 May 16 WEB (Carol Czech et al), this first year breeding male was obliging enough to get caught in a duck pen where it was observed by several people before escaping some five hours later. *ORCHARD ORIOLE*: 2 May 12-31 Carlton (WL), this is the second year the birds were observed nesting in the area.. Rusty Blackbird: reported from several areas in good numbers - max 200 May 2 Scottsville (NM). *SUMMER TANAGER*: 1 May 22 BB (GOS) first report since May 1947. Evening Grosbeak: reported in good numbers throughout period - we had a total of 35 reports with a max of 175 May 2 DEP (J&TM). Purple Finch also are being reported in good numbers. *HOUSE FINCH*: 1 May 11 Penfield (F. Munson); 1 May 13, 15 Fairport (F. Phelps); 1 May 24, 25 WEB (A&B Kemnitzer). Pine Siskin and Red Crossbill were also reported throughout the period, 14 and 8 reports respectively.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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April temperature averaged 1 or 2 degrees warmer than normal, rainfall was somewhat above normal. Cool and wet weather in the first half, with snow on the 10th. was balanced by an unusually warm, dry, sunny period around Easter,